

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1           1. A method in a computer system for communicating the present  
2 status of a job queue that contains a plurality of print jobs, comprising:  
3           controlling a display device to display a plurality of images; and  
4           wherein each image is a print preview image of a different one of the  
5 plurality of print jobs in the job queue.
- 1           2. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of images are displayed  
2 simultaneously.
- 1           3. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of images are displayed  
2 simultaneously and the images are displayed in an arrangement indicative of  
3 an order the plurality of jobs are presently lined up in the queue.
- 1           4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:  
2           receiving a request to line up the jobs in the job queue in a different  
3 order;  
4           in response to the request, rearranging the jobs in the job queue so  
5 that the jobs are lined up in the different order; and  
6           in response to the request, controlling the display device to display the  
7 images in a modified arrangement, wherein the modified arrangement  
8 indicates the jobs are lined up in the different order.
- 1           5. The method of claim 3, further comprising:  
2           receiving a request to view multiple pages of a selected one of the  
3 images, wherein the selected image is a print preview image of a single page  
4 of a first job from the plurality of jobs; and  
5           in response to the request, controlling the display device to display a  
6 print preview image of multiple pages of the first job.

- 1           6. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed by a  
2 computer device coupled to a printing device over a communication link; and  
3           wherein the job queue services the printing device.
- 1           7. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed by a  
2 printing device and the display device is local to the printing device.
- 1           8. The method of claim 1, wherein the controlling step is not performed  
2 until at least one personal identification number (PIN) is received.
- 1           9. The method of claim 4, wherein the request is received by a user  
2 dragging and dropping at least one of the displayed images.
- 1           10. A printing device serviced by a job queue, comprising:  
2 means for receiving a request for the present status of the job queue;  
3 and  
4 means for responding to the request by:  
5           (i) generating a print preview image of at least some of the jobs  
6 in the job queue when the job queue includes a plurality of jobs; and  
7           (ii) displaying the print preview images.
- 1           11. The printing device of claim 10, wherein the responding means  
2 displays the print preview images in an arrangement that is indicative of the  
3 way the corresponding jobs are lined up in the job queue.
- 1           12. The printing device of claim 10, wherein the responding means  
2 displays the print preview images in an order based upon an order the  
3 corresponding jobs are lined up in the job queue.
- 1           13. The printing device of claim 10, further comprising:  
2 means for receiving a selection of one of the displayed images,  
3 wherein the selected image is a print preview image of a first job in the job  
4 queue;

5 means for receiving a request to cancel a job the selected print preview  
6 image represents; and  
7 means for responding to the request by canceling the first job.

1 14. The printing device of claim 10, further comprising:

2 means for receiving a user selection of one of the displayed images,  
3 wherein the selected image is a print preview image of a first job in the job  
4 queue;

5 means for receiving a request to suspend a job the selected print  
6 preview image represents;

7 means for responding to the request by suspending the first job.

1 15. The printing device of claim 10, wherein the responding means  
2 simultaneously displays the print preview images on a display device in an  
3 arrangement that is indicative of the way the corresponding jobs are lined up  
4 in the job queue and the printing device further comprising:

5 means for allowing a user to change the way the jobs are lined up in  
6 the job queue by rearranging the print preview images.

1 16. A printing device, comprising:

2 a display device;

3 a controller; and

4 wherein the controller includes the capability to:

5 (a) generate a print preview image of a job in a job queue; and

6 (b) control the display device to display the print preview image.

1 17. The printing device of claim 16, wherein the controller includes the  
2 capability to:

3 (c) generate a print preview image of multiple jobs in the job  
4 queue when the job queue contains a plurality of jobs;

5 (d) control the display device to simultaneously display at least  
6 some of the print preview images of the multiple jobs.

1           18. The printing device of claim 16, wherein the controller includes the  
2 capability to:

3                   (c) generate a print preview image of a set of jobs in the job  
4 queue when the job queue contains a plurality of jobs;

5                   (d) control the display device to simultaneously display the print  
6 preview images in an arrangement that indicates the way the set of jobs are  
7 lined up in the job queue.

1           19. A method in a computer system for communicating the present  
2 status of a job queue that contains a plurality of jobs, comprising:

3                   (a) identifying those jobs in the queue that include an indicator  
4 that indicates a print preview image of the job should not be displayed;

5                   (b) displaying a print preview image of each job in the job queue  
6 not identified at step (a);

7                   (c) displaying a pre-defined image for each job in the job queue  
8 identified at step (a); and

9                   wherein the pre-defined image does not reveal any of the printable  
10 information described by the corresponding job.

1           20. The method of claim 19, wherein step (b) and step (c) are  
2 performed substantially simultaneously.

1           21. The method of claim 19, wherein the displayed images are  
2 arranged so as to indicate the order the plurality of jobs are lined up in the job  
3 queue.

1           22. The method of claim 19, wherein the pre-defined image is an image  
2 of a lock.

1           23. A method in a computer system for communicating the present  
2 status of a job queue that contains a plurality of print jobs, comprising:  
3           transmitting a request to a print server, where the print server is  
4 responsive to the request by returning a plurality of images each image being  
5 a print preview image of a different job in the job queue;  
6           receiving the plurality of print preview images; and  
7           displaying at least some of the print preview images.

1           24. The method of claim 24, wherein the print preview images are  
2 displayed in an arrangement that is indicative of the way the corresponding  
3 jobs are lined up in the job queue.

1           25. A method in a computer system for communicating the present  
2 status of a job queue that contains a plurality of print jobs, comprising:  
3           receiving a request from a client,  
4           responding to the request by transmitting at least one image to the  
5 client;  
6           wherein the image is a print preview image of one of the plurality of  
7 jobs.

1           26. One or more computer-readable that includes computer executable  
2 instruction for graphically communicating a present status of a job queue, the  
3 instructions including:  
4           first instructions for responding to a request for a present status of a job  
5 queue by displaying a print preview image of at least some of the jobs in the  
6 job queue.

1           27. The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the print  
2 preview images are displayed in arrangement that indicates an order the print  
3 jobs are lined up in the job queue.

1           28. A method in a computer system, comprising:

2           receiving a first request to transmit an electronic document to a remote  
3 destination,  
4           in response to the first request, placing a send job in a queue;  
5           receiving a second request for the present status of the queue;  
6           responding to the request, at least in part, by displaying an image of at  
7 least a portion of the document.